



GROWING YOUR RHUBARB



Common Name: **RHUBARB**

Botanical Name: Rheum x hybridum **Family Name:** Polygonaceae

Plant Type: Herbaceous Perennial **Size:** 70cm - 1.5m

Planting Width: 1 - 1.5m **Positioning:** Full to part sun

General Information: Very easy to grow with large dark green leaves, Rhubarb is a tasty and ornamental addition to the vegetable garden. **Soil:** Well drained and very rich soil with lots of organic matter. **Watering:** Rhubarb likes a lot of water and being moist. Do not allow plants to dry out as this will inhibit growth. **Fertilising:** After planting add a cup of general-purpose fertiliser per plant. Thrives with regular composting. Be sure not to use fresh manure as this is too acidic and will burn it. **Pruning:** Crowns need to be dug up in winter and trimmed or separated to ensure another good growing season. After winter cut off the last leaves and mulch well to assist in keeping soil moist. When harvesting, cut stalks with a sharp knife at ground level. Stop harvesting when new stalks being produced are thin. Likes Cool to cold environment.

Pests: Snails and crown rot can be a problem.

Ideal for: Ornamental look in semi shade and awkward corner.

Tips: It is not a good idea to harvest stalks in the first year. DO NOT eat the leaves as they are toxic, however safe to compost.